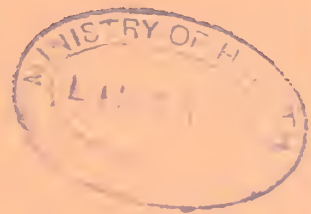


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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF CHESHAM

REPORT



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

for the year 1952

T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHAM

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1952

T.P.EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



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Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
CHESHAM, Bucks.

August, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Chesham Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the
year 1952.

The outstanding event of the year was, without doubt, the survey of the combined Amersham and Chesham District Councils' areas, conducted by the Mass Radiography (Reading) Unit of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. From the details given on pages 6 to 8 of this Report it will be seen that during each of the three weeks when the Unit was available in the Urban District, the average weekly attendances exceeded the calculated weekly working capacity of the Unit, and this in spite of the adverse conditions mentioned in the Report. Also, it was estimated that the Unit could profitably have remained in the areas working at this level or even above it, for an extended period of another four weeks. The pre-arranged timetable of the Unit unfortunately prevented this. The volunteer response of 4,161 attendances for Chesham and a total of 8,977 for the joint areas during a short period was, in my view, convincing evidence of the welcome response given to the survey by the inhabitants of the two districts. This response also, in my view, fully and finally disposes of the fallacy, still persistently held in some quarters, that "too many of our modern arrangements for the early ascertainment of disease, such as mass radiography, are calculated rather to alarm the public than to enlighten it".

Invaluable too was the assistance given by the Unit in the investigation of special groups as and when required.

Judged by the incidence of infectious disease, which during the year was low, the general health of the community was good. There was no case of diphtheria in the civilian population notified to me during the year, thus making 1952 the eighth year in succession during which no case has been notified within the Council's District. There was, however, one case of poliomyelitis, and I have taken the opportunity of reviewing the present position in so far as these two communicable diseases are concerned. For, diphtheria "still kills", as experience in a northern city shows: the victims are usually young children between five and six years of age and are not immunized. It seems that immunization is the price we have to pay for freedom against diphtheria. With regard to poliomyelitis, it may be said that the outcome in this disease has not been so well or so generally understood as it might be. In the prevention of this disease, there has not been the same good fortune in discovering a preventive measure as there has been with two other virus diseases, viz: small-pox and yellow-fever. At present, however, it seems that there is a secure basis for renewed hope that a safe and effective mode of prevention will be found against poliomyelitis.

Such communal services as water supplies, sewerage and sewage disposal, food hygiene, housing and pest control indicate the nature and degree of control imposed upon the physical environment of modern man. These services are sometimes referred to collectively as environmental hygiene. As will be seen from the pages of this Report, the services mediating this control have worked adequately and safely during the past year.

It is again my pleasing duty to thank my colleagues and other Officers of the Council for their co-operation during the year. Particularly would I thank Mr.L.D.Saturley, the Council's Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his valuable assistance, and finally Mr. Chairman and Councillors I wish to thank you for your active interest in the work of the Department throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

T.P.EVANS

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

T.P.Evans, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

L.D.Saturley, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.I.Hsg.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR

A.P.Wells, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

ASSISTANT RODENT OFFICER

J.G.Dobson

CLERK

R.Hutchinson (Resigned 6.12.52)

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A. GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population (estimated mid-year)	11,470
Area (acres) of District	3,489
Number of inhabited dwellings (per Rate Book)	3,757
Rateable Value of Area (31.12.52)	£81,230
Product of Penny Rate (1952/53)	£313

The Urban District of Chesham was extended by the Bucks Review Order of 1934 from an acreage of 1,357 to the present acreage of 3,489. The rateable value on 1st April, 1920 was £46,915, on the 1st April, 1934 it was £56,528, whilst on 31st December, 1951 it was £80,070.

The population of Chesham in 1921 was 8,534; in 1931 8,809; and the Registrar-General's estimate for 1952 was 11,470.

The product of a penny rate has increased from £216 for the financial year 1934-35 to £313 for the financial year 1952/53.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

Births, Infant and Maternal Mortality.

(a) Notified Live Births	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	94	75	169
Illegitimate	1	5	6
(b) Notified Still Births			
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	1	1	2
	<u>Chesham</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.3	15.3	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	22.3	22.6	
(c) Deaths from puerperal causes	.. ..	.. ..	Nil
(d) Deaths of Infants under one year of age	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
(e) Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age :-

Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births	....	....	....	17.7
All infants per 1,000 registered live births	....	....	....	17.1
All infants per 1,000 live births; England and Wales	....	....	....	27.6

Deaths.

Death Rate per 1,000 population	12.3
Death Rate, England and Wales	....	....	11.3

Causes of Death

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Malignant Neoplasms	15	10	25
2. Diabetes	1	1	2
3. Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	14	23
4. Coronary disease, angina	12	8	20
5. Hypertension with heart disease	2	3	5
6. Other heart diseases	4	12	16
7. Other circulatory diseases	6	6	12
8. Pneumonia	-	2	2
9. Bronchitis	8	2	10
10. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
11. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
12. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
13. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
14. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	5	11
15. Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
16. All other accidents	2	3	5
17. Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1
Total of all causes -	<u>73</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>141</u>

POPULATIONS, BIRTH AND MORTALITY RATES FOR THE YEAR 1952

District	Population Census 1951	Registrar-Gen. Estimated Population Mid-1952	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live and still-Births
URBAN								
Aylesbury	21,054	20,860	16.9 (352)	9.3 (193)	0.10 (2)	28.4 (10)	22.7 (8)	- (-)
Beaconsfield	7,909	7,984	15.3 (122)	10.8 (86)	0.25 (2)	82.0 (10)	49.2 (6)	- (-)
Bletchley	10,916	11,130	17.8 (198)	7.9 (88)	- (-)	40.4 (8)	30.3 (6)	4.93 (1)
Buckingham	3,944	3,991	13.8 (55)	14.0 (56)	0.25 (1)	18.2 (1)	- (-)	- (-)
Chesham	11,428	11,470	15.3 (175)	12.3 (141)	- (-)	17.1 (3)	11.4 (2)	- (-)
Eton	3,250	4,664	10.1 (47)	6.9 (32)	0.21 (1)	42.6 (2)	21.3 (1)	- (-)
High Wycombe	40,692	41,590	15.9 (661)	9.7 (403)	0.14 (6)	15.1 (10)	7.6 (5)	- (-)
Linslade	3,269	3,365	16.9 (57)	12.2 (41)	- (-)	35.1 (2)	35.1 (2)	- (-)
Marlow	6,480	6,524	16.7 (109)	10.1 (66)	- (-)	45.9 (5)	36.7 (4)	- (-)
Newport Pagnell	4,366	4,232	13.5 (57)	14.7 (62)	- (-)	35.1 (2)	35.1 (2)	- (-)
Slough	66,439	66,730	15.0 (1,003)	8.6 (571)	0.24 (16)	24.9 (25)	17.9 (18)	- (-)
Molverton	13,421	13,460	11.9 (160)	14.5 (195)	0.15 (2)	12.5 (2)	6.2 (1)	- (-)
TOTAL URBAN	193,168	196,000	15.3 (2,996)	9.9 (1,934)	0.15 (30)	26.7 (80)	18.4 (55)	0.33 (1)
RURAL								
Amersham	41,432	42,560	14.0 (596)	9.0 (384)	0.14 (6)	18.5 (11)	13.4 (8)	1.65 (1)
Aylesbury	29,543	30,940	15.7 (485)	8.9 (276)	0.06 (2)	26.8 (13)	20.6 (10)	2.04 (1)
Buckingham	9,422	10,270	15.9 (163)	7.4 (76)	- (-)	12.3 (2)	6.1 (1)	- (-)
Eton	43,120	43,870	14.6 (640)	10.3 (450)	0.23 (10)	28.1 (18)	21.9 (14)	1.53 (1)
Newport Pagnell	13,817	13,950	14.6 (204)	13.3 (186)	0.22 (3)	29.4 (6)	19.6 (4)	- (-)
Wing	9,042	8,921	17.3 (154)	11.3 (101)	0.34 (3)	19.5 (3)	19.5 (3)	- (-)
Winslow	7,268	7,509	14.9 (112)	13.1 (98)	0.13 (1)	17.9 (2)	17.9 (2)	- (-)
Wycombe	39,352	40,680	15.7 (639)	9.9 (402)	0.07 (3)	23.5 (15)	12.5 (8)	- (-)
TOTAL RURAL	192,996	198,700	15.1 (2,993)	9.9 (1,973)	0.14 (28)	23.4 (70)	16.7 (50)	0.99 (3)
TOTAL COUNTY	386,164	394,700	15.2 (5,989)	9.9 (3,907)	0.15 (58)	25.0 (150)	17.5 (105)	0.66 (4)
ENGLAND & WALES			15.3	11.3	0.24	27.6	-	0.72 (496)

NOTE:- In view of the small numbers on which some of the rates quoted are based, the actual numbers are given in parenthesis for the purpose of clearer comparison.

B. HEALTH SERVICES.

1. HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

Chesham Urban District is situated in the Oxford Regional Hospital Area. The Regional Hospital Board has delegated the duty of management of the local hospitals to the High Wycombe and District Management Committee which in turn has delegated day-to-day administration to two House Committees. One House Committee is responsible for three hospitals viz., the Amersham General Hospital, the Chesham (Cottage) Hospital and the Stone Maternity Hospital, Chalfont St.Giles. The other is responsible for the Chalfont and Gerrards Cross Hospital, Chalfont St.Peter.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases and needing admission to hospital are removed to either Aylesbury Isolation Hospital or the Park Isolation Hospital, Reading, according to the patient's residence or the availability of accommodation in either of these hospitals.

The Booker Isolation Hospital has now been adapted and is used for non-infectious categories of patients, including chronic sick, for whom existing accommodation is inadequate.

2. LABORATORY SERVICES.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, organised and administered by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health since 1939, will continue to be administered on a peace-time basis on behalf of the Ministry of Health for an initial period of five years after the appointed day of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The Service is concerned with Bacteriology and Epidemiology in relation to the diagnosis, prevention and control of infectious disease.

Public Health Laboratories are situated at Walton Street, Oxford, and at Town Hall, Luton, and in general undertake free of charge the bacteriological examination of such specimens as sputum, nose and throat swabs, faeces, urine, blood, etc. The bacteriological examination of samples of water, milk and ice-cream is carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Luton.

The chemical examination of water is undertaken by the Public Analyst, Southwark Borough Council.

3. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

Since the operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council is responsible for the provision of ambulance facilities of all kinds. The Bucks County Council provides an ambulance service for non-infectious cases for the whole of the County through the agency of the Order of St.John and the British Red Cross Society. Two St.John's ambulances are stationed in Chesham.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious cases are stationed at Aylesbury and Slough.

4. NURSING IN THE HOME.

This service is now provided by Miss S.M.Holloway, S.R.N.,S.C.M., Q.N., and Miss G. Nicholson, S.R.N.,S.C.M.,Q.N., from 305, Berkhamsted Road, Chesham. The nursing sisters hold an ante-natal clinic at this address.

5. CLINICS.

There has been no major change in the dual services provided at the Germain Street Clinic, viz., a Minor Ailments Clinic and a Specialised Service Clinic.

The Venereal Diseases Scheme of the Bucks County Council has established clinics at King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, and at High Wycombe.

C. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1. INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were 47 cases of Infectious Disease notified as follows:

Disease	Cases Notified	Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	4	1	—
Measles	42	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	—

There were also 9 primary notifications of tuberculosis.

The following table shows the new cases of tuberculosis and the deaths from the disease, arranged in age groups.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 - 5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5 - 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 - 25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 - 35	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 - 45	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 - 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 - 75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	3	—	1	—	—	—	—

2. MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

Combined Survey of Amersham and Chesham Districts

When the invitation to conduct a Mass Radiography Survey of these two districts, was extended to the Oxford Regional Hospital Board Unit No. 2 (Reading), the purpose of such a survey was clear. It was to undertake chest x-rays of as many of the general public including industrial groups organised on a sessional basis, as propaganda would bring to the Unit. It was thereby hoped that the survey would disclose the number of tuberculosis cases, known and unknown, that form the human reservoir of tubercular infection within the community. It was also hoped "to find, isolate and educate" as many cases as possible that would not otherwise have been discovered at such an early stage. As the survey proceeded, however, it became necessary to concentrate upon special groups, such as certain schools where it had become known that pupils were "at risk". These special investigations were undertaken partly while the Unit was stationed at Chesham though the Schools were not Chesham Schools, and partly at Princes Risborough when the Unit was stationed there after it had left this district.

From the accompanying tables (page 8) it will be seen that from 1st September to 7th November, 1952, the Mobile Mass Radiography Unit, devoted a period of nine weeks to the survey of the two districts. The result was that of a total combined population of about 54,000, a total of 8,977 volunteers were x-rayed during the period, that is about 16% of the whole population. In judging the percentage of volunteers, however, various factors should be borne in mind. Firstly, the district is a dormitory area for London; secondly, the total period of the survey was nine weeks only; thirdly, the rural nature and total size of the area - about 44,000 acres, and fourthly the extremely wet weather conditions that prevailed during the last three weeks of the survey. These factors militated quite seriously against exceptional attendances. Nevertheless, in spite of these factors, the average weekly total of 997 attendances throughout the nine week period taken as a whole exceeded the calculated weekly average attendances of 754 based on the figures for the country as a whole in the year 1951.

As far as I know, the record percentage of attendances in a similar survey in this country is 90% response of the total population. That survey, however, was conducted in a compact and comparatively isolated area where there were two units at work at the same time - one at the pit-head and the other at suitable halls in one of six main centres, where also about 20,000 home visits were paid in connection with the survey, where the adult population was about 19,000 and where the survey took several months, not weeks to complete.

Though at first sight the local percentage response of 16% of the total population seems to be disappointingly low, a more favourable view may be taken when the number of x-rays actually taken during the local nine week period is compared with the normal working capacity of the x-ray unit. During 1951, it is officially reported that there were 57 Mass Radiography Units in operation in England and Wales and it is calculated that about 43,000 x-rays were taken each week, which gives each unit an average weekly output of about 754 x-rays. Of the nine weeks' survey in the Amersham and Chesham Districts, this average national weekly figure was exceeded in four areas, viz., Amersham on the Hill (1142), Chesham 1st week (1499), Chesham 2nd week (1365) and Chesham 3rd week (1297): in four areas, viz., Chalfont St. Peter (956), Amersham Old Town (768), Great Missenden (766) and Chalfont St. Giles (730) the local figures roughly correspond with the National average weekly attendances, and in one area only did the local

figures fall definitely below the corresponding National average, viz., Penn Street (454). It may therefore be said that the average local attendances in most cases roughly equalled and in others exceeded the usual working capacity of the Unit - and this despite the adverse factors mentioned above.

It may be asked whether the results obtained were worth the effort. It is my considered opinion that they were: I will even go so far as to say that if no cases of tuberculosis had been found, it is my opinion that when considered as an experiment in Health Education alone, the survey was more than worth while. The average national active tuberculosis discovery rate is said to be 3.5 per thousand persons X-rayed: the local figures corresponded roughly with the national figures in this respect though the local discovery rate of other serious conditions like cancer and bronchiectasis was stated to be below the ascertained national figure for such surveys.

Part of the procedure in dealing with suspected cases of tuberculosis by means of the survey was that the volunteers were examined clinically by the Medical Officer in Charge of the Unit (Dr. James) who sent a Report on the case to the patient's own doctor, with a recommendation that the patient be referred for fuller investigation by the Consultant in Diseases of the Chest usually to Dr. Hawkins at the Amersham General Hospital. Suitable cases were admitted for treatment to Amersham Hospital, others to Peppard Sanatorium whilst others were admitted to Abingdon Hospital. The delay in securing appropriate treatment was thereby reduced to a minimum.

What general conclusions may be drawn from this survey? These are mainly confirmatory of what has taken place in other surveys. The first is the fact that the very large numbers of volunteers (8,977) who attended the survey showed that there is far less resistance to attend a mass radiography survey than to attend a chest clinic for investigation, and therefore cases tend to be discovered earlier than they would otherwise have been discovered. Secondly, the fact that the percentage of tuberculosis found in a survey is proportional to the percentage response obtained; and thirdly, that there exists a relationship between the prevalence of tuberculosis and the "order of coming up". In other words it is suggested that in the remaining 84% refusals to be X-rayed, the prevalence of tuberculosis is proportionately higher than in the 16% of the volunteer response. Therefore it must remain a hope for the future that there will be in any community a 100% response of volunteers. I also wish to express the hope that the means to achieve this 100% response will remain on a voluntary basis and not become compulsorily enforceable, and the method will continue to be a matter of Health Education. Except in grave emergencies, the operation of law in matters of positive personal health has not proved very successful. In this connection it is only necessary to compare diphtheria immunisation response with smallpox vaccination. Diphtheria immunisation in this country has always been on a voluntary basis, and has been uniquely successful, whereas the means to secure vaccination in the past, was mandatory and its results were not regarded as successful as they might have been.

It is my view that a special conclusion concerning this local survey may be drawn. It is that had the local volunteer response alone been the sole factor in determining the period of the survey, and not the pre-arranged timetable of the Unit, the survey could profitably have been extended for another four weeks when the estimated volunteer response would have kept the Unit at work at a level above the National weekly average for the four weeks of the extended period. There was, however, no way of estimating beforehand what this response would be: the period of the survey of nine weeks initially agreed upon proved to be wrong; it was an under-estimate of the enthusiastic response with which the survey was welcomed. Nevertheless, when a future survey is undertaken this will be borne in mind.

In conclusion it is my very pleasing duty to thank all concerned for the whole hearted co-operation given in the survey. To attempt to give names of the very many who assisted would be merely tempting fate because I should undoubtedly but quite unwittingly omit someone whose name should be included, so instead of trailing my cloak at the feet of the Fates, may I say a simple but sincere thank you to all who contributed to make the survey the undoubted success it proved to be.

The following Summary shows the total numbers examined by the Unit, on completion of the survey of the Amersham and Chesham Districts.

	School Children (Organised Sessions)			Industrial Employees (Org:Sessions)			General Public (Open Sessions)			T O T A L		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	TOTAL
AMERSHAM OLD TOWN 5. 9. 52	-	-	-	142	159	301	129	338	467	271	497	768
AMERSHAM-ON THE-HILL 12. 9. 52	-	-	-	91	82	173	345	624	969	436	706	1,142
CHALFONT ST. PETER 19. 9. 52	39	34	73	114	70	184	231	468	699	384	572	956
CHALFONT ST. GILES 26. 9. 52	-	-	-	82	72	154	176	400	576	258	472	730
GREAT MISSENDEN 10.10. 52	12	11	23	131	56	187	176	380	556	319	447	766
PENN STREET 17.10.52	18	25	43	206	27	233	65	113	178	289	165	454
<u>AMERSHAM and DISTRICT</u> <u>TOTAL :</u>	69	70	139	766	466	1,232	1,122	1,323	3,445	1,957	2,859	<u>4,816</u>
CHESHAM BROADWAY 24.10. 52	91	108	199	164	84	248	388	664	1,052	643	856	1,499
31.10. 52	80	82	162	41	127	168	388	647	1,035	509	856	1,365
7.11. 52	44	165	209	126	39	165	371	552	923	541	756	1,297
<u>CHESHAM</u> <u>TOTAL :</u>	215	355	570	331	250	581	1,147	1,863	3,010	1,693	2,468	<u>4,161</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL:</u>	284	425	709	1,097	716	1,813	2,269	4,186	6,455	3,650	5,327	<u>8,977</u>

3. POLIOMYELITIS.

There was one case of poliomyelitis notified during the year within the Council's area. This gives an opportunity to review the present position concerning this disease.

Of all the communicable diseases, cases of poliomyelitis are usually characterized by the public anxiety and even public alarm to which they sometimes give rise. Public anxiety tends to be exaggerated because the outcome of the disease is not so well and generally understood as it might be. The results of an investigation to ascertain the outcome of 7,832 cases of the disease admitted to hospital in 1949, were published sometime ago. I think it is worth-while publishing the results because of their reassuring nature. It was found that out of every 100 patients admitted to hospitals throughout the country in that year 5 died; 10 were severely paralysed; 18 had a degree of paralysis which, properly treated would not stop them from working, and the remaining 67 were left with a trivial paralysis which would pass almost unnoticed or would cause no ill-effect whatever. The case which occurred in Chesham in 1952 fell within this last group. Included in this remaining group of 67 were about 30 in whom the diagnosis of poliomyelitis was never confirmed. Further, it is estimated that two out of every three patients notified in the country as a whole, in 1950, recovered unscathed.

Poliomyelitis is a disease caused by a virus like small-pox and yellow-fever. Unlike these two, however, against which the principle and practice of immunization (vaccination) has found its greatest success in the field of the virus diseases, there has not yet been found any successful method of immunization against poliomyelitis. This failure has been due to various causes, but there is, at present, a secure basis for renewed hope of discovering an effective and safe protective vaccine against the disease.

4. DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria Immunization								
Age Groups	Under							Total
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	
Primary Immunisation	37	58	7	2	1	3	1	109
Re-immunisation	-	-	-	-	1	144	4	149

This is the 8th year during which no case of diphtheria has been notified to me from within the Council's area. The

incidence of diphtheria continues to fall throughout the country as a comparison of the figures of notifications in the years 1944 and 1952 show: in the former the number of cases in the whole country was 23,199, whereas in the first nine months of 1952 the number was 274 only. These figures speak for themselves.

Immunisation against diphtheria has become "at least for the moment something like a national habit". The fear of diphtheria has declined amongst parents in a direct relation to the decline of the disease itself: the majority of parents of young children nowadays have never seen or heard of a case of diphtheria among their neighbours' children and are more afraid of illnesses they know than of the dangers of diphtheria. But diphtheria still kills, as was shown recently in a northern city, where acceptances for immunisation were beginning to decline in 1950 and 1951. From outside the city diphtheria was introduced, and there was a sharp outbreak of the disease within the city which caused two deaths and left a trail of complications. There were two points of general interest in connection with this outbreak: one was that neither of the children that died from diphtheria was immunised, and the other was that there was an overwhelming response and numerous offers of immunisation after the outbreak had begun. It seems that immunisation is the price of freedom against diphtheria.

It is interesting to note that in a recent report published by the World Health Organisation, covering about 100 different countries for the year 1951, there is evidence that diphtheria, a very prevalent disease at the beginning of the 20th century, appears to-day to be in full retreat throughout the world, particularly in Europe, the continent which was formerly the most seriously affected. The United Kingdom provides the most striking illustration of the trend of the disease during the last 50 years with the following deaths: 1901, (9,761): 1940, (2,466): 1952, (32).

D. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

Briefly the Undertakings within the Chesham Urban District are as follows :-

(a) Chesham Urban District Council supply a part of the district which can be conveniently described as the area of the Urban District prior to the extension of boundaries to their present position. The area of supply is 1,357 acres being approximately 40 per cent of the Urban Area (3,489 acres), but it contains about 76 per cent of the total number of dwelling-houses.

(b) Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company serves what we might call the North-West area which extends roughly from Chartridge Lane to the west side of Vale Road in the northern part of the district. Within this district in Pednor Road there are approximately ten dwelling-houses which have individual boreholes and hand-pumps.

This boreholes are subject to regular sampling and the water is reported to be of high bacterial and chemical purity.

(c) The Great Berkhamsted Water Company serves the North-East area which comprises the fringe formed by the difference in the two boundaries, the old and the new, and which extends roughly from the east side of Vale Road, Nashleigh Hill to Lye Green Road.

(d) Amersham and Beaconsfield Water Company supplies the southern area, mainly Bois Moor Road, which comprises a very small part of the district.

Samples of Public Water Supplies collected during the Year.

Name of water Undertaking	Samples for Bacteriological Examination		Samples for Chemical Analysis	
	Date	Result	Date	Result
Chesham Urban District Council	7. 1.52	Satisfactory	7. 1.52	Satisfactory
	19. 2.52	Satisfactory	19. 2.52	Satisfactory
	29. 7.52	Satisfactory	29. 7.52	Satisfactory
	5.11.52	Satisfactory	5.11.52	Satisfactory
Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Company	26. 5.52	Satisfactory	26. 2.52	Satisfactory
	5.11.52	Satisfactory	5.11.52	Satisfactory
Amersham & Beaconsfield Water Company	19. 2.52	Satisfactory	19. 2.52	Satisfactory
	29. 7.52	Satisfactory	29. 7.52	Satisfactory
Berkhamsted Water Company	7. 1.52	Satisfactory	7. 1.52	Satisfactory
	26. 5.52	Satisfactory	26. 5.52	Satisfactory

Specimen copies of the Analyses are to be found in the Appendices I - IV

I am satisfied with the water supply from all undertakings within the Urban District of Chesham both in regard to quality and quantity. The supplies receive no treatment other than chlorination and the waters are not liable to have plumbosolvent action.

The number of dwelling-houses having no internal water supply is small, being approximately two per cent of the total number of dwellings and many of these would have been dealt with under the Housing Acts but for the commencement of hostilities.

2. PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

During the year two samples of water were taken from the Public Swimming Bath, situated on the Moor, Chesham, and controlled by the Chesham Urban District Council. Bacteriological reports on the samples indicated that the water was satisfactory for bathing purposes.

3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Only the outlying areas of the District remain unsewered, in areas where, due to the contours of the land, the necessary fall to the sewage farm would be difficult to obtain. The Council's cesspool emptying machine emptied 114 cesspools during 1952, 110 of these being in the Urban District, whilst the remainder were in adjoining areas.

The sewerage is on the separate system, the soil water sewer discharging at the Council's Sewage Disposal Plant in Latimer Road, Chesham.

4. REFUSE DISPOSAL.

All house refuse collected in the Urban District is disposed of by incineration at the Council's Incinerator Plant in Latimer Road, Chesham.

Salvage Return for 1952.

	tons	cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	5	2	28	36.	3.	6.
Scrap Iron	2	19	84	10.	9.	2.
Bottles	7	3	0	17.	3.	3.
Lead	-	1	49	7.	3.	9.
Brass	-	-	28	1.	12.	6.
	15	6	77	72.	12.	2.

5. POST-WAR HOUSING.

In the period from May, 1952 to April, 1953 the Council have rehoused 89 families, including 37 exchanges of tenancy.

Since 1946, Chesham Council have provided alternative housing accommodation for 643 families and the following details of the number of new dwellings erected in the post-war period are of interest.

<u>Year</u>	<u>New Dwellings</u>
1946/47	35 (pre-fab. bungalows)
1947/48	14
1948/49	119
1949/50	73
1950/51	41
1951/52	24
1952 - April, 1953	52
Total	<u>358</u>

Seven cases of statutory overcrowding, as defined by Section 58 of the Housing Act, 1936, have been abated during the period, - five cases occurring in privately owned property and two cases in Council property.

E. SANITARY INSPECTION.

1. SANITARY INSPECTORS' VISITS.

Number of Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	....	97
" revisited " "	....	130
" inspected " Housing Acts	....	6
" revisited " "	....	59
" inspected for vermin ...	....	9
" rooms disinfested ....	....	17
" revisits to verminous premises	....	9
Miscellaneous visits to houses ..	....	930
Visits where infectious disease had occurred	....	8
Number of rooms disinfested ....	....	2
Visits to Slaughterhouse (Meat Inspection)	....	681
" Butchers' shops ....	....	40
" Fish shops ....	....	22
" Grocers' shops ....	....	99
" Ice-cream premises ....	....	75
" Food preparing places..	....	20
" Restaurants ....	....	25
" Bakehouses and confectioners...	....	23
" Dairies ....	....	2
" in connection with milk sampling	....	8
" to licensed premises ....	....	8
" Knacker's Yard ....	....	1
" and inspections of Factories...	....	26
" Outworkers' premises ....	....	25
" in connection with water supply	....	37
" in connection with Rodent Control	....	54
Interviews ....	....	156
Miscellaneous visits ....	....	293

2. LIBRARY BOOKS.

During the year, five library books were withdrawn from houses where infectious disease had occurred and were disinfected before being returned to the librarian for re-circulation.

3. VERMINOUS PREMISES.

During the year nine verminous premises were dealt with by the staff of the Public Health Department, involving the disinfestation of seventeen rooms. Treatment with D.D.T. preparations proved effective in each case.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

The following table shows the number of defects which have been dealt with by means of informal action during 1952 :-

Abatement of Nuisances.

Defect	Number of Defects			
	Outstanding on 1.1.52	Reported in 1952	Remedied in 1952	Outstanding on 31.12.52
Dampness	31	16	22	25
Defective doors and windows	8	16	10	14
Defective roof surface water drainage	10	16	9	17
Defective sanitary accommodation	2	15	8	9
Defective floors, stairs, etc.	2	7	2	7
Defective dustbins	-	4	4	-
Defective plaster-work	5	8	6	7
Defective fireplaces	4	3	5	2
Leaking roofs	14	8	11	11
Defective and dangerous ceilings	2	-	-	2
Defective drainage systems	1	4	4	1
Defective coppers	1	2	3	-
Choked drains	-	11	11	-
Overflowing cesspools	-	5	5	-
Miscellaneous	2	1	3	-
TOTALS	82	116	103	95

5. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. STATUTORY NOTICES.

The following is a statement of the Statutory Notices served and complied with during the year :-

Section of Act	No. of Notices served	Details	Notices Complied with	Notices Outstanding on 31.12.52
45	1	Defective sanitary accommodation	-	1
93	1	Abatement of nuisances	-	1

6. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. PROVISION OF DUSTBINS.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 75 (3) of the Act and following the procedure described in the Report for 1950, dustbins were provided by the Council at two houses within the District during the year.

7. HOUSING.

I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :-

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 103
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 292
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts 3
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 65
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 3
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 100

II. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :-

1. Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 24

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs | 0 |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices | |
| | (a) by owners | 0 |
| | (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 3 |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | |
| | (a) by owners | 0 |
| | (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 0 |
| 2. | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 0 |
| 3. | Number of individual unfit houses in respect of which the Local Authority accepted undertakings either that the premises would be rendered fit for human habitation within a specified period, or that they would not be used for human habitation until rendered fit for that purpose | 1 |

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :-

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 0 |
| 2. | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | 0 |

Housing Act, 1936: Overcrowding.

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (a) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 9 |
| (b) | Number of persons concerned in cases under (a) | 38 |
| (c) | Number of cases of overcrowding in Council houses relieved during the year (included under (a)) | 2 |

8. RODENT CONTROL.

Since the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, came into force on the 31st March, 1950, this Authority has been responsible for rodent control for all premises within the District boundary with the exception of Crown properties. Prior to this date, agricultural holdings were under the supervision of the County Agricultural Committee. In order to obtain information with regard to these holdings, a complete survey was made during the year and particulars as to the number and extent of these properties has been obtained.

This information is not only required for administrative purposes but is also necessary for the completion of the annual report on rodent control activities which has to be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in order to obtain grant aid.

In addition to the regular survey of the District, the Council's sewers are test baited and treated at regular intervals.

Set out below is a copy of the Annual Return for the period under review, which has been forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, as required by the Act of 1949.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949
Report for Year Ended 31st December, 1952.

	Local Authority	Type of Dwelling Houses	Property Agri- cultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	10	3576	43	533	4162
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey or otherwise (Notes 1, 2 & 3)	(a) 9 (b) 1	84 1072	1 42	26 133	120 1878
III. Number of properties inspected (See Section II) found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 & 3)	Major - Minor 7	5 132	1 2	- 10	6 151
IV. Number of properties inspected (See Section II) found to be seriously infested by mice. (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	-	-	-	1	1
V. Number of infested properties (see Sections III & IV) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	7	137	-	11	155
Number of "block" control Schemes carried out	27				

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (Continued)

NOTES

- Note 1(a) With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area. (b) Only properties devoted to agricultural or horticultural production, in respect of which returns are made under the Agriculture Act, 1947, should be entered as agricultural properties.
- Note 2(a) Council houses should be entered in Column (2).
 (b) Premises used by the Local Authority for the purposes of trade should be entered in Column (4).
 (c) Sewers should not be included.
 (d) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Column (4). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Columns (2) and (4).
- Note 3 For the purpose of completing Sections II, III, IV and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

9. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

It is the duty of Local Authorities to enforce this Act, which has operated since 1st July, 1951, with a view to securing the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined. Premises where filling materials of the types listed in the Act are used in the manufacture of bedding, toys, baby carriages and other articles of upholstery are required to be registered, and premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored for distribution to registered premises have to be licensed.

An important exemption from the registration provisions of the Act is that reconditioning of upholstery can be done on unregistered premises, and it is not an offence to have unclean materials on registered premises in certain cases where they are brought to the premises in an article for reconditioning. Again the sale of second-hand articles even if they contain unclean materials is not illegal. It is however an offence to make or sell a new article containing dirty material whether that material is derived from second-hand or reconditioned articles or otherwise.

Regulations have been made under the Act prescribing standards of cleanliness for each kind of filling material to which the Act applies, and detailing the procedure for the taking of samples, and their submission to the prescribed analysts.

The number of premises registered under the Act in this District is two, the activities carried on being the manufacture of soft toys in one case and the upholstery of furniture and bedding in the other.

10. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act which sets out to regulate the conditions under which animals are sold in pet shops came into operation on the 1st April, 1952.

The Act requires that persons keeping a pet shop must be licensed by the Local Authority and in granting licences the Council may attach such conditions as they think fit for securing :-

- (a) that animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;
- (b) that animals will be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals;
- (c) that animals, being mammals, will not be sold at too early an age;
- (d) that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent the spread among animals of infectious diseases;
- (e) that appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

The Chesham Council resolved that the Sanitary Inspectors should be authorised to inspect premises licensed under the Act.

In this District one person has been licensed to keep a pet shop. The conditions attached to the licence are similar to those recommended by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

11. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 269 - Moveable Dwellings.

During 1952, 30 persons were licensed under Section 269 of the Act to station moveable dwellings in the District. 23 of the caravans were stationed on the site managed by the Chesham Urban District Council on their land at Trapps Lane, Chesham, the remaining 7 being located on various individual sites throughout the District.

The Council's site which has been fully occupied since opening in 1951 contains standings for 23 caravans. A piped supply of main water is available and a communal sanitary block has been provided, containing water closets and washing facilities. A rental of 7/6d per week is charged for each caravan.

F. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MILK.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)
Regulations, 1949.

Since the coming into operation of the above-mentioned Regulations on the 1st October, 1949, the duties of Local Authorities have been concerned mainly with the enforcement of provisions relating to the distribution of milk and to its handling and treatment at premises other than dairy farms. The provisions with regard to infection of milk with diseases communicable to man are also the responsibility of Local Authorities.

During the year 8 samples of bottled milk in respect of which the special designation "Pasteurised" was in use were collected from licensed distributors in the area and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

All but one sample passed the prescribed tests for "Pasteurised" milk. The sample which did not conform to the standard was obtained from a dealer whose pasteurising plant is situated outside the District and the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the responsible Authority stated that at the time the sample was taken the plant had been undergoing overhaul and renewal. Subsequent samples from the same supply were found to be satisfactory.

The number and type of licences granted by this Authority under the Regulations are given below :-

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested"	2
Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised"	2
Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested"	2
Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "Sterilised"	1

Food and Drugs Acts
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 - Article 20.
Brucella Infection.

As a result of bacteriological analysis of samples of milk taken from supplies derived from milk producers in the Urban District, three supplies were found to be Brucella infected.

In all cases, the farms were visited and the producer interviewed. As in every case the supplies were sent direct to pasteurising establishments, no formal action under the above Regulations was necessary.

2. MEAT INSPECTION.

Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouse.

The Ministry of Food continue to operate the slaughterhouse situated on the premises of the Chesham, Wycombe and Tring Co-operative Society Ltd., High Street, Chesham. This slaughterhouse, which is of modern construction, serves as a slaughtering centre for the supply of home-killed beef, veal and mutton for Chesham and the surrounding districts. This area has a population of over 50,000.

From 1946 to 1951 there was a steady increase in the amount of slaughtering carried out and during the year under review, the number of animals killed was maintained at the peak level reached in 1951.

The Council's Sanitary Inspectors are responsible for the examination of all meat, and a system of 100% inspection is in operation. This work has involved 681 visits to the slaughterhouse during the past twelve months.

Cysticercus Bovis.

The routine post mortem examination of cattle included a search for cysticercus bovis infestation, as recommended by the Ministry of Food in 1948. The detection of this condition is important in relation to meat inspection as the consumption of flesh containing viable cysts can give rise to a tapeworm infection in man. In 1952, 31 cases were discovered representing an incidence of 1.5% in animals examined. The examination revealed only slight infestations and in no case was it necessary for the carcasses affected to be totally condemned. As a measure of safety, however, all carcasses and offal from affected animals, before being released for human consumption, were subjected to a period of cold storage to render the cysts harmless.

In an effort to trace the sources of infection, particulars of affected animals were sent to the Public Health Departments of the Authorities in whose areas the animals were last known to have been located, with a view to enquiries being made on the farms concerned. No success in tracking down human tapeworm carriers has, however, been reported. The chief difficulty met with in investigations appears to be the fact that the animals concerned have passed through the hands of various owners prior to slaughter.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1951	14
Applications for Licences considered during 1952	1
Number of Slaughtermen removed from Register (no applications for renewal of Licences)	2
Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1952	13

Summary of Inspections and
Condemnations at Slaughterhouse.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1692	314	1078	3879	59
Number inspected	1692	314	1078	3879	59
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis :-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	5	5	3	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	591	111	1	198	10
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	34.9%	36.9%	0.6%	0.5%	22%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	3	6	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	124	50	-	-	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	7.5%	17.8%	0.09%	-	3.4%

3. CONDEMNED FOODSTUFFS.

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
Beef	10	18	98
Mutton		6	109
Pork		4	33
Veal		2	68
Ham			50
Fish.			77
Cheese			53
Dried Milk		1	-
	11	15	40

Tinned Goods.

Milk	52	tins
Fish	36	"
Meat	176	"
Fruit	194	"
Vegetables	204	"
Jam and Marmalade	3	"
Sundry goods	11	" or jars
Tomatoes	104	"

4. INSPECTIONS OF FOOD PREMISES.

All types of food premises were visited by the Sanitary Inspectors at frequent intervals during the year. As a result of requests made by the Inspectors, a number of occupiers have remedied defects at their premises or discontinued unhygienic practices in food handling.

Whilst it is found that food handlers are becoming increasingly aware of the risks attached to the bad handling and storage of food, there is still considerable scope for education in this direction.

The following table shows the principal defects found and remedied in food premises during the year.

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			
	Out-standing on 1.1.52	Found During Year	Remedied During Year	Out-standing on 31.12.52
Want of cleanliness and poor decorations in food rooms.	4	3	4	3
Walls, floors and ceilings of food rooms in disrepair.	6	3	5	4
Inadequate washing facilities for use of staff.	2	7	6	3
Unsatisfactory food storage accommodation.	1	1	1	1
Miscellaneous defects.	-	13	13	-
Totals	13	27	29	11

Dogs in Food Shops, Restaurants, etc.

Following the recommendations of the Ministry of Food, the Council had given approval in 1951 for the distribution to all food traders in the District of Notices signed by the Medical Officer of Health requesting customers not to bring dogs into premises in which food is sold.

Printed Notices, suitable for use on counters or in windows, were distributed in August, 1952, and traders were asked to have them displayed in their establishments. A few weeks later when visits were made to the premises, it was found that the majority of traders were displaying the Notices. Many expressed appreciation of the Council's action in arranging for the supply of the Notices.

5. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - Section 89
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 - Section 13.

Licensed Premises.

During the year the owners completed the remedy of a number of defects in licensed premises which had been reported to them in previous years by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Particulars of the defects remedied are given in the table below.

Particulars of Defect	Outstanding on 1.1.52	Found during Year	Remedied During Year	Outstanding on 31.12.52
Inadequate or Unsatisfactory washing facilities.	4	-	4	-
Want of cleanliness in bars or beer-stores.	-	-	-	-
Insufficient sanitary accommodation.	2	-	2	-
Unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation (inadequate screening, no separate approaches for males and females, etc.)	3	1	4	-
Totals	9	1	10	-

Since 1950, improvements have been carried out in thirteen of the twenty-six licensed hotels and public houses in the District. The extent of the work which these improvements have entailed is illustrated by the following list of items known to have been carried out :-

New sinks fitted in bars	4
Sink drainage systems installed or improved	3
Sink water heaters installed	6
Hot water systems installed	1
Staff washing facilities improved	1
Washing facilities provided for women	2
New W.C.s provided for women	2
New urinals constructed	1
Sanitary accommodation for staff provided	1
Separate approaches to W.C.s provided	3
Screening to W.C.s & urinals provided	2
Lighting in W.C.s installed	1
W.C.s and urinals repaired	3
W.C.s and urinals cleansed	6
Redecoration of beer cellars and bars carried out	6

6. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 - BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15.

Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air have been in operation in this District since the 17th July, 1950. In the course of inspection of food premises special attention has been given to the enforcement of the provision of these Byelaws.

7. ICE-CREAM.

During the year frequent visits have been made to premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold with a view to ensuring that the provisions of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947, are observed.

Given below is a summary of the premises registered by this Authority for the sale, storage and manufacture of ice-cream.

Register of Ice-Cream Premises.

	Premises on Register 1951	Added to Register 1952	Removed from Register 1952	Totals
Sale and Storage of ice-cream	33	3	-	36
Manufacture of ice-cream	6	-	-	6
Total	39	3	-	42

Ice-Cream Sampling.

Twenty-three samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination, and the following table shows a summary of the results obtained.

	Samples Taken	Provisional Grading recommended by Min. of Health			
		I	II	III	IV
Ice-cream manufactured in District	6	2	3	1	-
Ice-cream manufactured outside District	17	9	4	3	1
Totals	23	11	7	4	1

8. FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

G. FACTORIES ACT, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	8	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	90	23	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	2	2	-	-
Total	100	26	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	2	-	2	-	-
Total	5	1	2	-	-

3. OUTWORK.

During the year lists of outworkers have been received showing the names of 50 persons engaged in the following classes of work.

Making of wearing apparel	10
Making of furniture hangings	30
Brush-making	10

4. CHESHAM INDUSTRIES.

The following is a list of Factories, and Factories (No Mechanical Power) on the Register on the 31st December, 1952.

Factories with Power

Woodware and Joinery	14
Motor-vehicle repairs	11
Brushware	10
Boot Manufacture and Repairs	8
Bakers	3
Light Engineering	7
Clothing and Textiles	3
Printers	3
Toy manufacture	2
Plastic Moulding	2
Food Manufacture and Packing	8
Upholstery	2
Miscellaneous	17
Total	<u>90</u>
Building operations	2

Factories (No Mechanical Power)

Undertakers	1
Stone Mason	1
Blacksmith	1
Tailor	1
Cycle Repairs	1
Waste Merchant	1
Radio Engineer	1
Packing	1
	<u>8</u>

Appendix I

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

Public Analyst's Department,
Health Services Department,
Walworth Road, S.E.17.

D.F.H.BUTTON, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst.

19th February, 1952

M.90.

Report on the analysis of a sample of water received from
Chesham Urban District Council per Mr.L.D.Saturley on 12th February,
1952.

Sample of water taken from tap off main, 68 Bois
Moor Road, Chesham. Water supplied by Amersham
and Beaconsfield Water Company.

Appearance
Reaction (pH)

Clear & Colourless
7.5

Parts per million

Free Chlorine	nil
Total Solids	322
Chlorine in Chlorides	15.5
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.007
Nitrate Nitrogen	2.3
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98° F.)	0.20
Hardness, Temporary	256
Permanent	32
Total	288
Metals, Lead, Copper, Zinc	Not found

Bacteriological Examination.

Colonies on agar in 48 hrs. @ 37°C.	2 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hrs. @ 20°C.	2 per ml.
Coliform bacilli	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that the water is of high
chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for drinking and
domestic purposes.

(Signed)

D.F.H.BUTTON.

Public Analyst.

Appendix II

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

Public Analyst's Department,
Health Services Department,
Walworth Road, S.E.17.

D.F.H.BUTTON, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst.

26th May, 1952.

M.9.

Report on the analysis of a sample of water received from
Chesham Urban District Council per Mr.L.D.Saturley on 20th May,
1952.

Sample of water taken from tap off main,
6, Lye Green Cottages, Chesham. Water
supplied by Berkhamsted Water Undertaking.

Appearance Clear & Colourless
Reaction (pH) 7.1

Parts per million

Free Chlorine	nil
Total Solids	338
Chlorine in Chlorides	15.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.002
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.003
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98°F.)	0.04
Hardness, Temporary	255
Permanent	8
Total	263
Metals, Lead, Copper, Zinc	Not found

Bacteriological Examination.

Colonies on agar in 48 hrs. @ 37°C.	2 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hrs. @ 20°C.	2 per ml.
Coliform bacilli	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that the water is of
high chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for drinking
and domestic purposes.

(Signed) D.F.H.BUTTON

Public Analyst.

Appendix III

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

Public Analyst's Department,
Health Services Department,
Walworth Road, S.E.17.

D.F.H.BUTTON, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst.

5th November, 1952.

M.49.

Report on the analysis of a sample of water received from
Chesham Urban District Council per Mr.L.D.Saturley on 29th October,
1952.

Sample of water taken from tap off main at
Public Health Department, Council Offices,
Chesham. Water supplied by Chesham Urban
District Council.

Appearance
Reaction (pH)

Clear & Colourless
7.2

Parts per million

Free Chlorine	nil
Total Solids	340
Chlorine in Chlorides	17.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.002
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.002
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98°F.)	nil
Hardness, Temporary	250
Permanent	30
Total	280
Metals, Lead, Copper, Zinc	Not found

Bacteriological Examination

Colonies on agar in 48 hrs. @ 37°C.	0 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hrs. @ 20°C.	1 per ml.
Coliform bacilli	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that the water is of high
chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for drinking and
domestic purposes.

(Signed)

D.F.H.BUTTON

Public Analyst.

Appendix IV

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

Public Analyst's Department,
Health Services Department,
Walworth Road, S.E.17.

D.F.H.BUTTON, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst.

5th November, 1952.

M.48.

Report on the analysis of a sample of water received from
Chesham Urban District Council per Mr.L.D.Saturley on 29th October,
1952.

Sample of water taken from tap off main at Vale
Cottages, Chesham. Water supplied by Rickmansworth
and Uxbridge Valley Water Company.

Appearance
Reaction (pH)

Clear & Colourless
7.1

Parts per million

Free Chlorine	nil
Total Solids	380
Chlorine in Chlorides	17.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.002
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.002
Nitrate Nitrogen	5.6
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98°F.)	nil
Hardness, Temporary	250
Permanent	70
Total	320
Metals, Lead, Copper, Zinc	Not found

Bacteriological Examination

Colonies on agar in 48 hrs. @ 37°C.	0 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hrs. @ 20°C.	2 per ml.
Coliform bacilli	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that the water is of high
chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for drinking and
domestic purposes.

(Signed)

D.F.H.BUTTON.

Public Analyst.